

# Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

## *Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Door*

We are a publicly declared **Reconciling Congregation** and a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network that advocates and works for a truly all-inclusive church. As a Christian community, we lean in on radical inclusion welcoming to humans of all races, genders, and sexual orientations who are affirmed and accepted as a full participant in the life and work of this United Methodist congregation.

## Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 12, 2023, 10 am

Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.

**We welcome all visitors today!** Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the "**Visitation Card**" found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

**Prayer Candles** are located back at the narthex for anyone who wants to light a candle for someone or something and offer it to God in prayer.

**Children** are invited to enjoy the resources in the **Children Learning Center** located at the back of the sanctuary during worship. Children are welcome to check out books and activity items to take home by signing the simple "*Check-out Sheet*" on clipboard there.

*Today's altar flowers are dedicated by Marieta Flores.*

### Words of Meditation

"There's a deeper way of knowing what it means to know, which is beyond all explanations. It's just in this deep kind of wisdom that's manifested in ways beyond what the thinking self thinks it can understand."

~ James Finley

*(\*Please stand if you are able)*

**Prelude**

*Gethsemane Hymn*

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light**

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

Rev. John Song

**\*Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors near you with "**Peace of Christ be with you.**")

**\*Centering Breath**

The practice of Chanting the **Names of Jesus Christ** is invoking the **indwelling Presence of Christ** within you and within all of us.

Jesus Christ

You are my Lord

You abide in me (v. 2) I abide in you

**\*Call to Worship (Responsive)**

Leader: As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep,

**People: So God seeks and saves the lost.**

Leader: Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found,

**People: So God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.**

Leader: As a father receives a returning wayward son,

**People: So God welcomes us, and lets the past be the past.**

Leader: Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received.

**People: Let us receive and welcome and rejoice over one another in the name of Jesus Christ.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

#140

**Children's Time**

**"How to Do the Sign of the Cross"**

Pastor John

**Epistle Reading**

**1 Corinthians 13:12-13** (The Message)

<sup>12</sup> "We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!

<sup>13</sup> But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love."

**Philippians 4:6**

"And the peace that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Message**

**Rendezvous with God**

Rev. John Song

Part 3) **"Sign of the Cross 3.0"**

**Unison Prayer**

***Prayer of John Wesley***

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

Praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.

And now, O wonderful and holy God,

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

**Hymn in Response**

*Seek Ye First*

#405 (2X)

**Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Leader: Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

**Offertory**

*Rock of Ages*

Marina Thomas

**\*Hymn to the Trinity**

*Gloria Patri* (Glory to the Father)

#70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

**Presentation of Offering**

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Accept our gifts from our hearts, O God, and dedicating our lives in tipping the world toward love and justice by following the Way of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song**

*Bind Us Together*

FWS #2226

**\*Benediction** [\*This ends the Live Streaming]

**Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro** (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Postlude**

*O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

Marina Thomas

*We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of quality coffee,  
refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following worship.*

Today's refreshments: Marjorie Martinez & Marieta Flores

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor  
Pianist  
Choir Leader  
Liturgists  
Greeters

Rev. John Song  
Marina Thomas  
Carmelita Abenoja  
Tahja Martinez, Febe Avitua, Mark Sorensen  
Harry & Clarice Wiggins

Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis
Coffee Hour	Marjorie Martinez, Marieta Flores

### Calendar for the Week

Sun., March 12	10:00 am	<b>Third Sunday of Lent Service</b> <b>*Spring Forward:</b> Daylight Saving Time begins!
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:45 am	<b>Leadership Council Meeting</b> , St. Stephen's room
Mon., March 13	1pm-3pm	<b>Sewing Group</b> , St. Stephen's room
Sat., March 18	10am-3:30pm	<b>Lenten Day Retreat</b> , Social Hall (Pre-registration 9:30 am)
Sun., March 19	10:00 am	<b>Fourth Lent / UMCOR &amp; LEGO Sunday</b> Guest Preacher, Dr. Peter Coster
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall
	11:30 am	<b>30 Minute Conversation with Pastor</b> , St. Stephen's room

### *Opportunities*

**Lenten Day Retreat** with Dr. Peter Coster  
**What to do with ANGER: Understanding Our Sacred Emotion**  
**Sat. March 18, 10 am – 3:30 pm**

(9:30 am Pre-registration; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

Cost for members & friends of the church: \$10 Students, Staff & anyone under 30: FREE

**30 Minute Conversation with Pastor on All Things Faith & Christian Life**  
 (Every Sunday from 11:30 am – 12 pm, during Coffee Hour, St. Stephen's room)

The **Sewing Group** meets **every Monday from 1-3 pm** in St. Stephen's Room.  
 All are welcome! For more information please contact Carol Parker.

**Lenten Day Retreat:** Sat. March 18, 10 am – 3:30 pm with Dr. Peter Coster  
 (9:30 am Check-in; 12 pm – 1 pm Lunch provided)

**Winter Dinner Program @ Salvation Army: Fri. March 24, 4:30 pm**

**COPA Housing Civic Academy:** Saturday, March 25, 3:00 pm @ Wats1st UMC

Church Website: [watsonville1stumc.org](http://watsonville1stumc.org)

Email: [office@watsonville1stumc.org](mailto:office@watsonville1stumc.org) | Phone: (831) 724-4434

Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)

Pastor Office Hours: Tue – Thu 10 am – 12 pm, 3 pm – 5 pm

229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

*Baptism, Membership, Wedding, Funeral, and Pastoral Counseling are available*